

In the Claims

The claims have been amended as follows:

1-30. Cancelled.

31. (previously presented) A method of using text from a design tool to display an output to a user, said method comprising:

graphically displaying said output from said text of said design tool;

graphically listing design rule violations;

displaying said output as part of a software layer of said design tool such that no permanent changes are made to any original design file;

generating and annotating a subset output file for use by said user and other users;

loading and viewing said subset output file without running said design tool rule checker; and

generating software help functions allowing said user and others to gain information about design rule violations.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 31 including representing said output as part of said software layer of said design tool, and deleting said output when no longer required.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 32 including having said software layer presented in a pop-up window display.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein said pop-up window further includes information identifying said design rule violations, net name, component name, information relating to design rules.

35. (previously presented) A method of using text from a design tool to display an output to a user, said method comprising:

graphically displaying said output from said text of said design tool;

graphically listing design rule violations;
displaying said output as part of a software layer of said design tool such that no permanent changes are made to any original design file;
generating and annotating a subset output file for use by said user and other users; and
generating software help functions allowing said user and others to gain information about design rule violations, wherein said software help functions include highlighting, zooming, measuring cumulative distance between multiple points, changing viewpoints of a design, changing magnification level, changing feature visibility, and changing location of a viewport.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 35 including representing said output as part of said software layer of said design tool, and deleting said output when no longer required.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 36 including having said software layer presented in a pop-up window display.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein said pop-up window further includes information identifying said design rule violations, net name, component name, information relating to design rules.

39. (new) A method of using text from a design tool to display an output to a user, said method comprising:

graphically displaying said output from said text of said design tool;
graphically listing design rule violations;
displaying said output as part of a software layer of said design tool including graphically highlighting or bounding a feature central to said design rule violation such that no permanent changes are made to any original design file;

generating and annotating a subset output file for use by said user and other users, including loading and viewing said subset output file without running said design tool rule checker; and
generating software help functions allowing said user and other users to gain information about design rule violations.

40. (new) A method of using text from a design tool to display an output to a user, said method comprising:

graphically displaying said output from said text of said design tool;
graphically listing design rule violations;
displaying said output as part of a software layer of said design tool including graphically highlighting or bounding a feature central to said design rule violation such that no permanent changes are made to any original design file;
generating and annotating a subset output file for use by said user and other users; and
generating software help functions allowing said user and other users to gain information about design rule violations;

wherein said software help functions include highlighting, zooming, measuring cumulative distance between multiple points, changing viewpoints of a design, changing magnification level, changing feature visibility, and changing location of a viewport.